



Department of Human and Health Services

PREVENTIVE SERVICES 2002 ANNUAL REPORT



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Our Partners

Berkshire Farms Center

Catholic Family Center

Cayuga Home for Children

Crestwood Children's Center

Family Resource Centers of
Rochester

Family Service of Rochester

Hillside Children's Center

Ibero American Action League, Inc.

Lifetime Assistance, Inc.

Linden Oaks

Monroe County Office of Probation

Mt. Hope Family Center

Society for the Protection and Care
of Children

St. Joseph's Villa

University of Rochester, Strong

Memorial Hospital

Urban League of Rochester

Mission Statement

The Preventive Services Unit is a division of the Monroe County Department of Human and Health Services that is committed to contracting for the most effective, efficient, and accessible services for families whose children are at risk of placement out of the home.

These services are intended to prevent foster care placements, hasten the return home of children already in placement, divert youth from entering the Family Court system, prevent/reduce incidents of maltreatment and strengthen family life.

Message from Dan Ross, Acting Manager of Child and Family Services

Two kinds of things can happen when times are tough for a group of people—they either turn on each other and try to gain whatever advantage they can, or they come together to try to achieve their common goals. The contract agencies providing preventive services have formed a coalition that is an outstanding example of the second approach. Despite difficult times, these agencies remain open to implementing new, evidence based program models just as they have always been open to search for ways of improving their existing programs. They may do this partially as a survival strategy but much more importantly because of their commitment to improving the lives of Monroe County's most vulnerable residents. Over the years they have collectively demonstrated striking success at helping families remain together and keeping children safe. We all owe them an enormous debt of gratitude.

*Report written by Katie Castern, consultant to the
Department of Human and Health Services.*

ANALYSIS OF DATA FROM THE 2002 PREVENTIVE SERVICES ANNUAL SURVEY

I. Capacity of Preventive Services Programs and Numbers Served in 2002

Numbers Served in 2002	
Families	2172
Children	5234

The capacity of the programs was reduced somewhat during 2002:

Total program slots on January 1, 2002: 1107
Total program slots by December 31, 2002: 1050

The number of staff working in preventive services decreased 8% in 2002:

	Supervisors	Workers	Aides	Clerical Staff	Other Staff	Total
Number of Staff as of 1/1/02	46.5	126.07	40	22.25	15	249.82
Number of Staff as of 12/31/02	43.8	113.57	34	21.89	16.4	229.66
*FTE as of 1/1/02	31.56	97.62	15.5	14.54	7.77	166.99
*FTE as of 12/31/02	28.16	85.28	11.5	10.26	8.02	143.22
*FTE Vacancies as of 12/31/02	0	9.5	3	0	0	12.5

*Full-time equivalent

Even though the preventive services programs had staff reductions, most of them met or exceeded their projected numbers in 2002. Thirty of the 34 programs reported that the number of families they served either met or exceeded the number they expected to serve in the year.

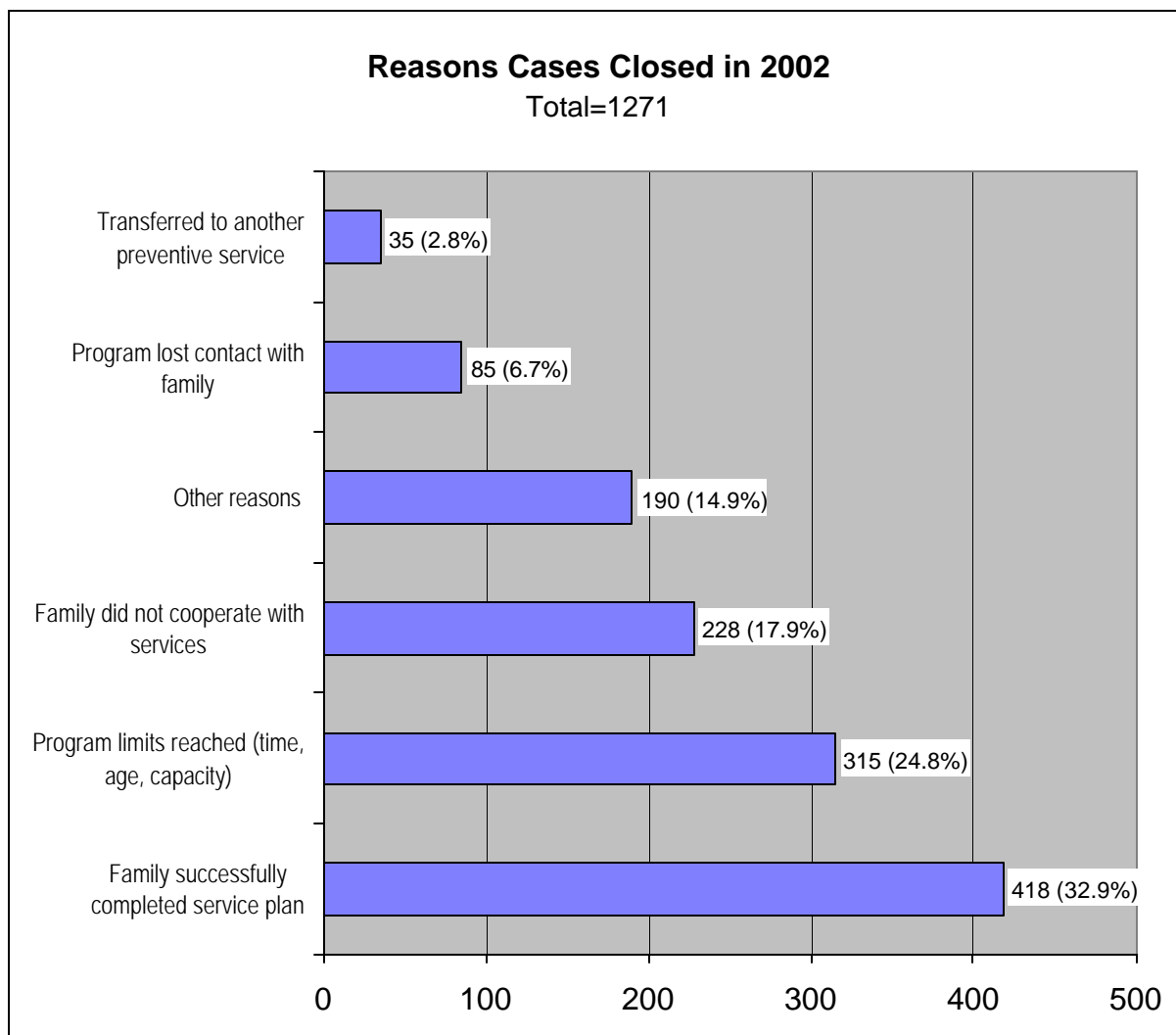
II. Goals Met by Preventive Services in 2002

Foster Care and Child Abuse Avoidance

- 93 children were placed in foster care in 2002, accounting for 2% of the children served. Therefore, 98% of children served avoided foster care placement in 2002.
- 85 families had new indicated CPS complaints during 2002. This represents 4% of the families served. Therefore, 96% of families avoided new CPS reports in 2002.
- The programs reported that 526 children were in placement at start of services. Of these, 229, or 44%, returned home.

III. Reasons for Case Closings in 2002

The programs reported that a total of 1271 cases closed during 2002. The following chart shows the various reasons that these cases closed.

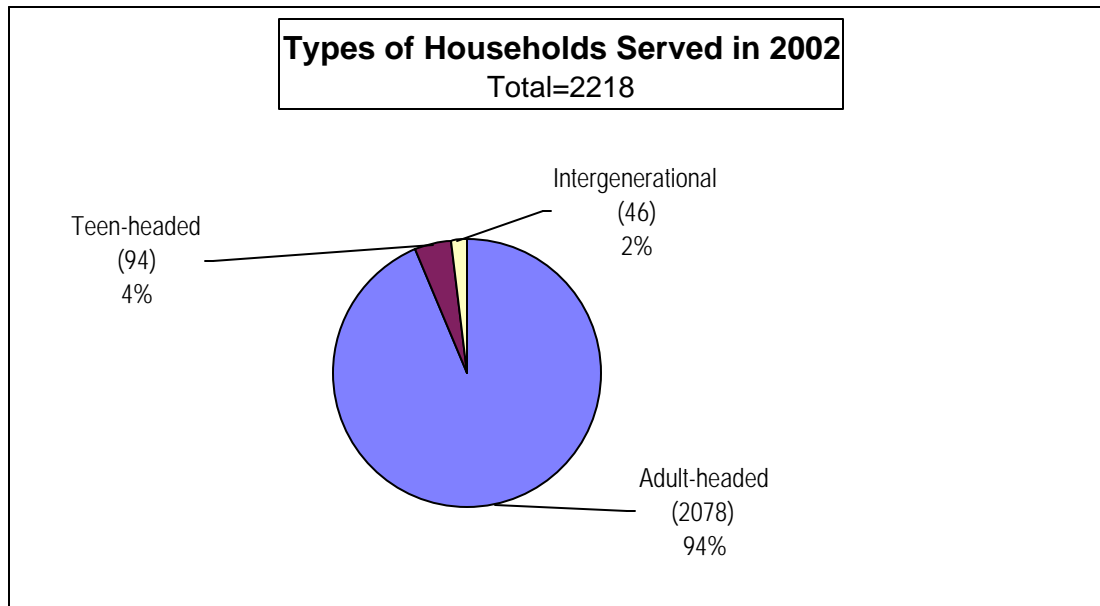


IV. Characteristics of Families Served by Preventive Services in 2002

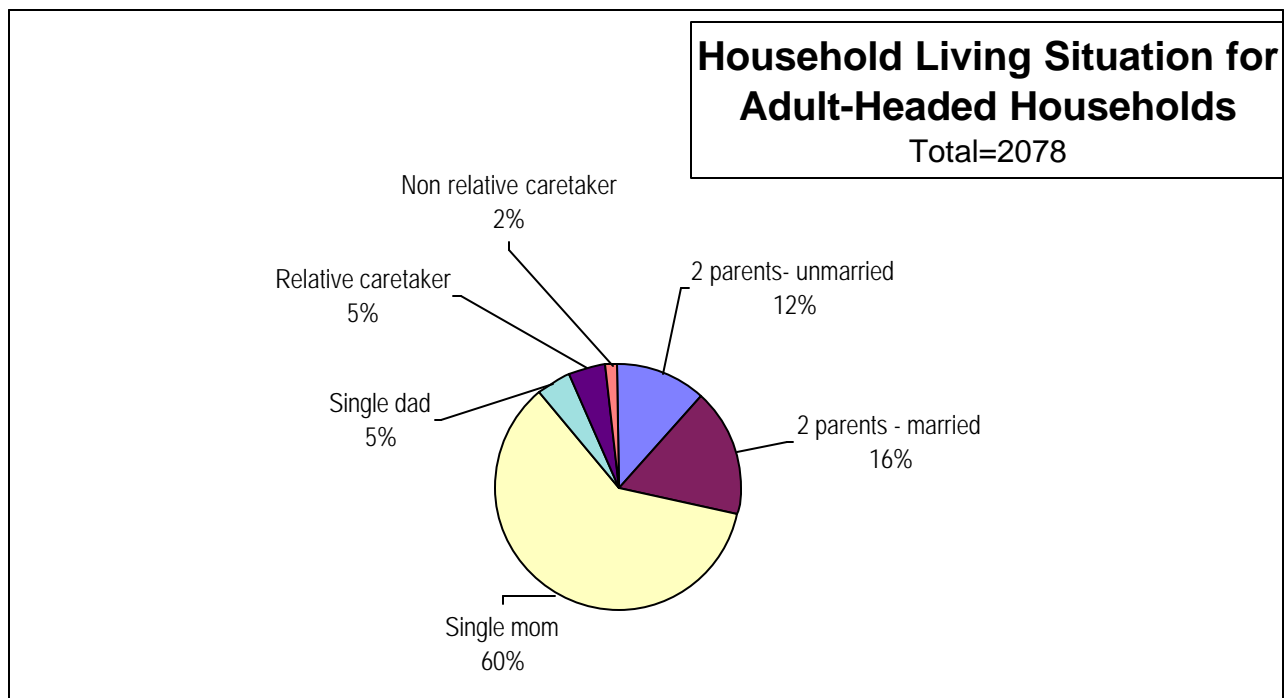
Total number of children living with adoptive parents: 30, or 0.6% of the total children.

Composition of Households Served

Almost all of the households served by Preventive Services in 2002 were adult-headed households, defined as households headed by adults aged 20 and above.

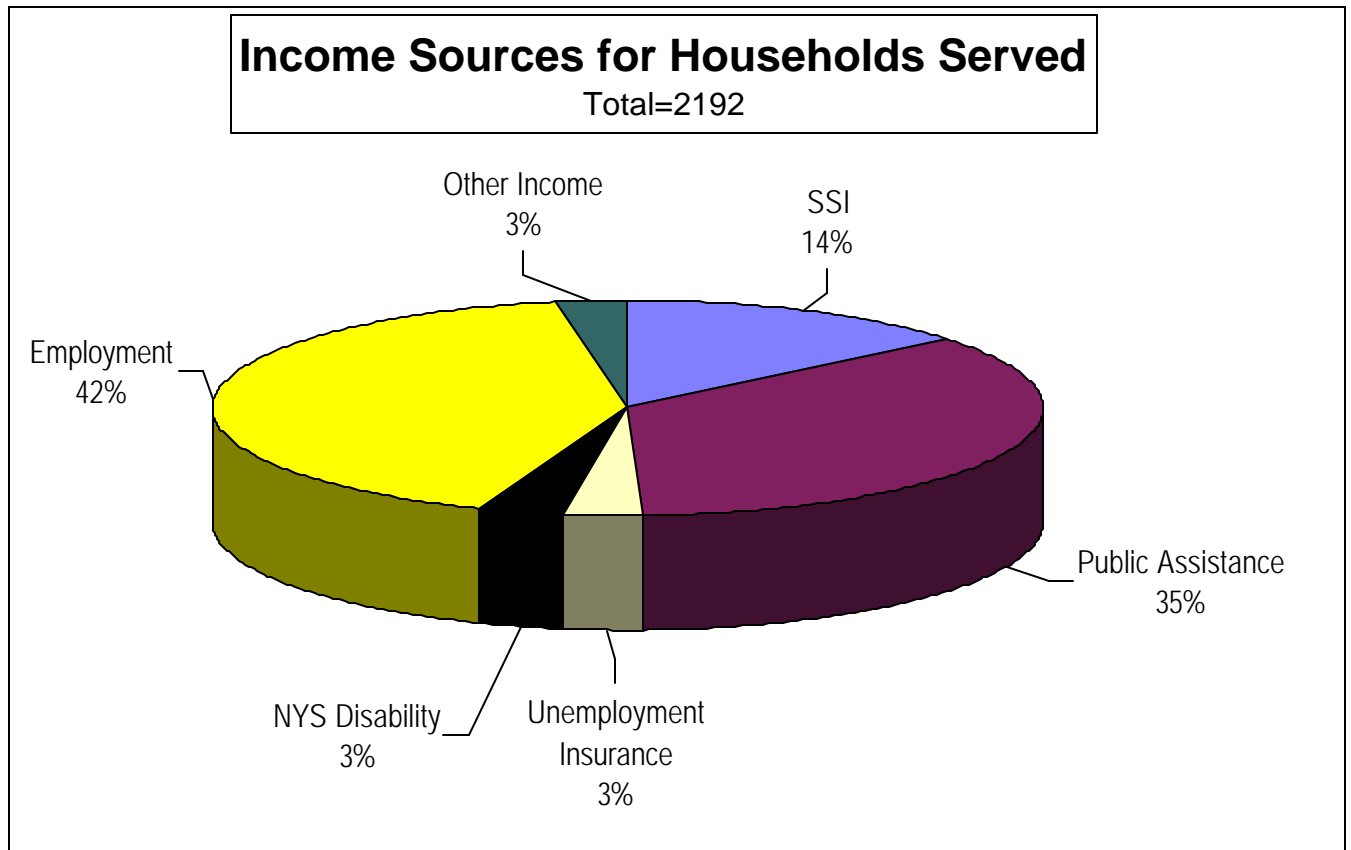


The majority of adult-headed households served in 2002 was headed by a single mother.



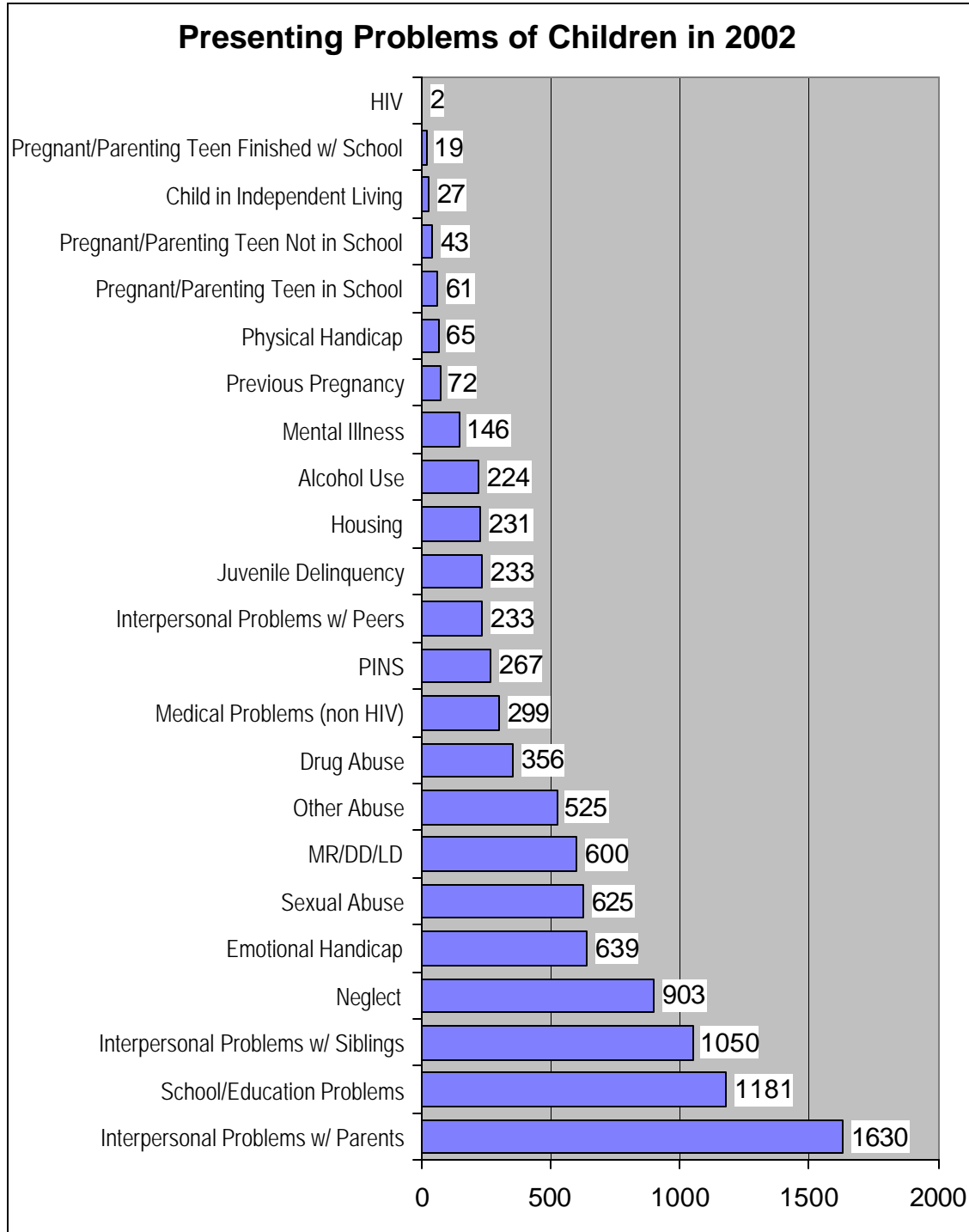
Income Sources for the Families in Preventive Services in 2002

The most common income source for households served was employment, with public assistance the second most common.

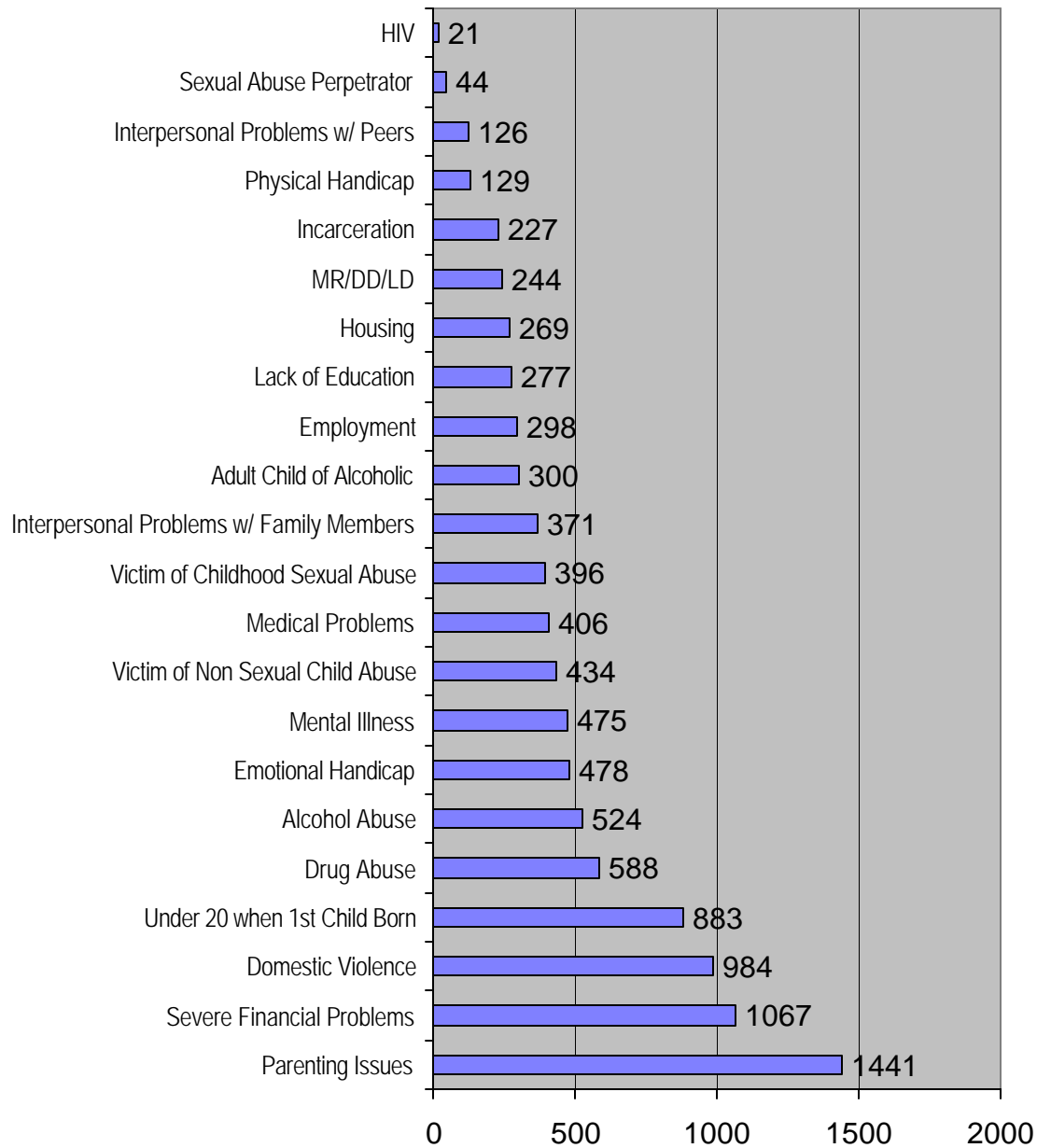


Clients' Presenting Problems

The programs were asked to report the number of children and caretakers they served who had various presenting problems. Their answers are detailed on the charts below. An individual person could be counted as having more than one problem.

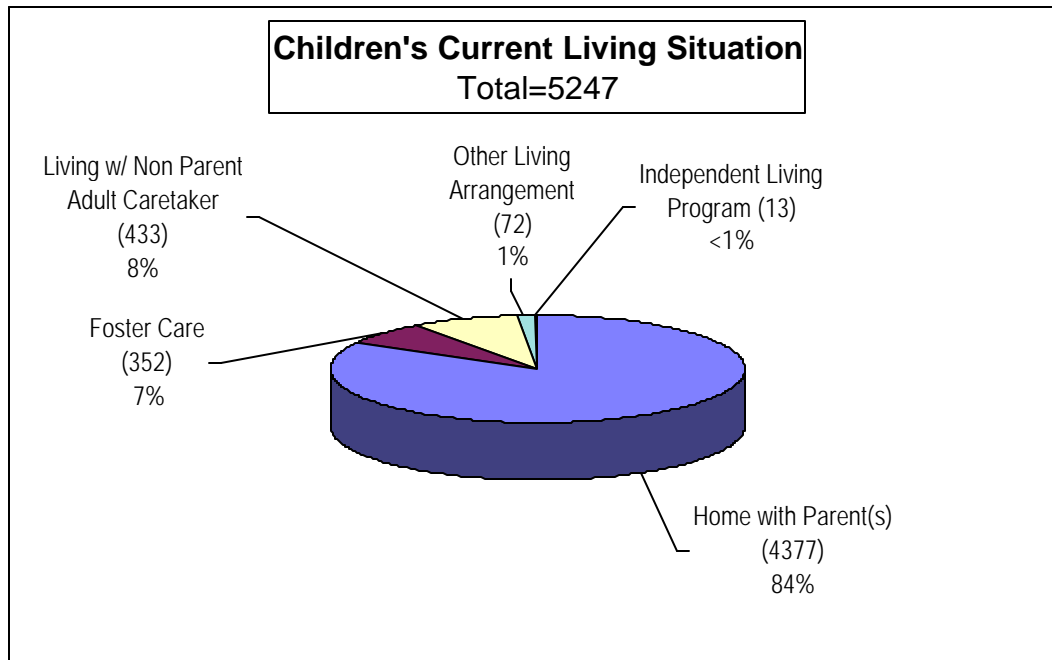


Presenting Problems of Caregivers in 2002

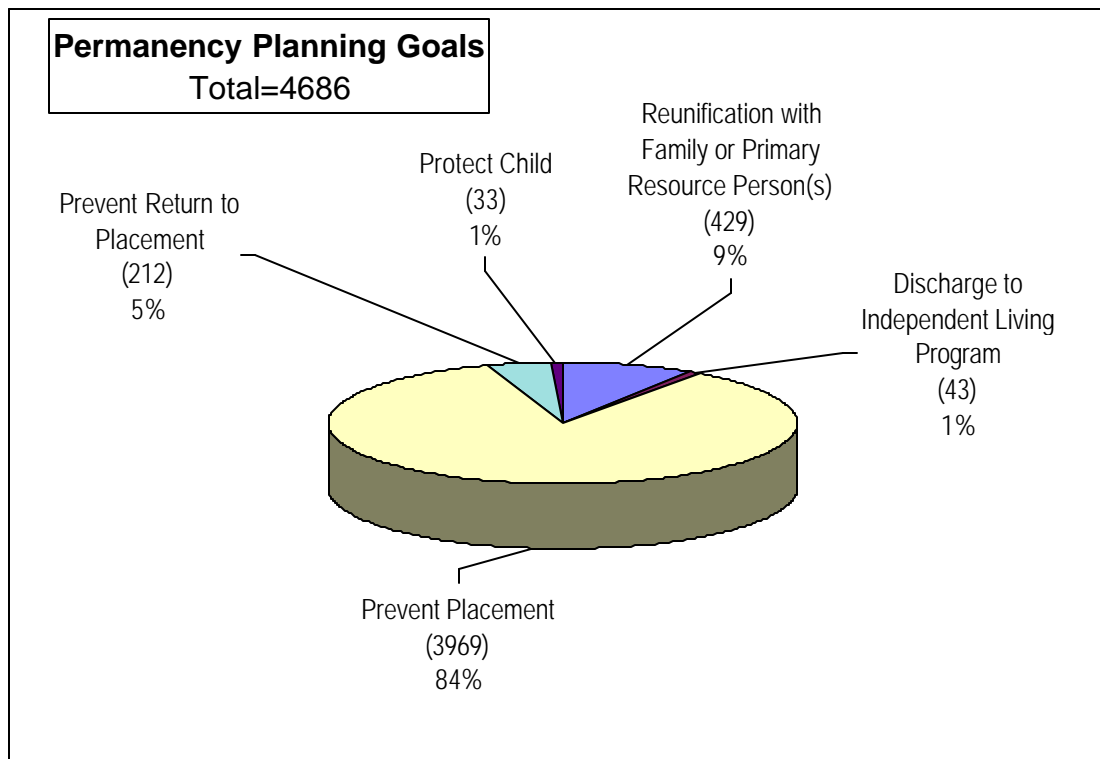


Children's Living Situation and Permanency Planning Goals

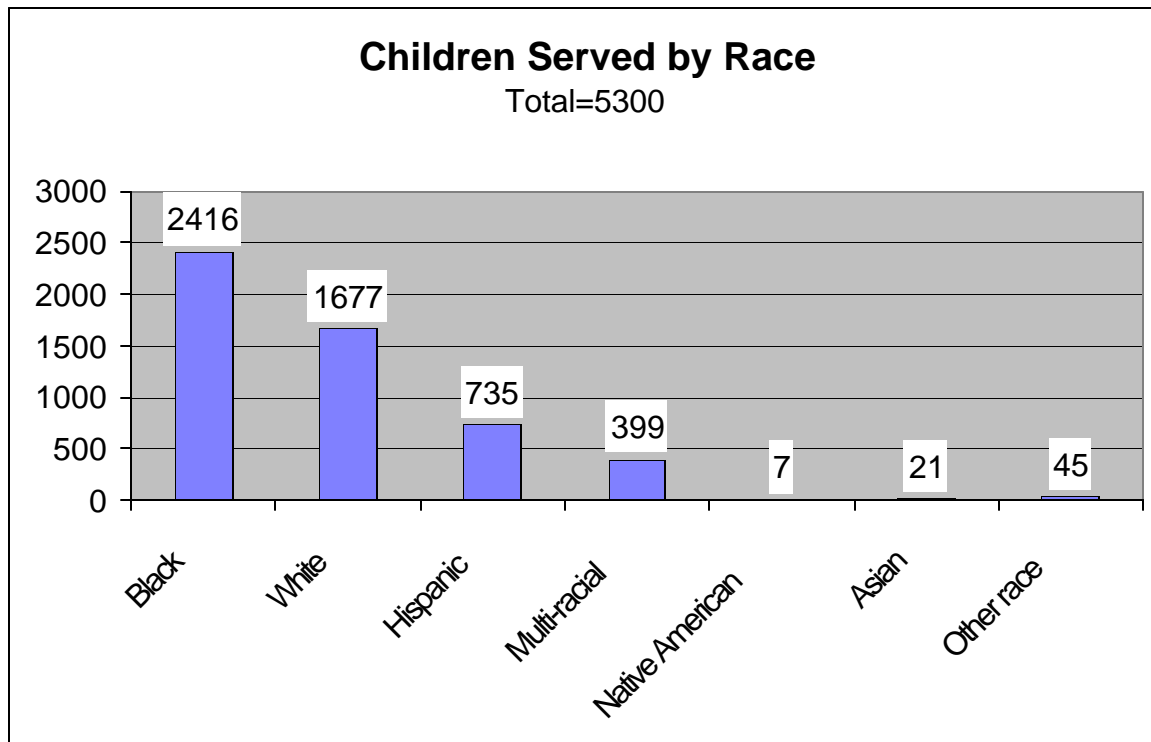
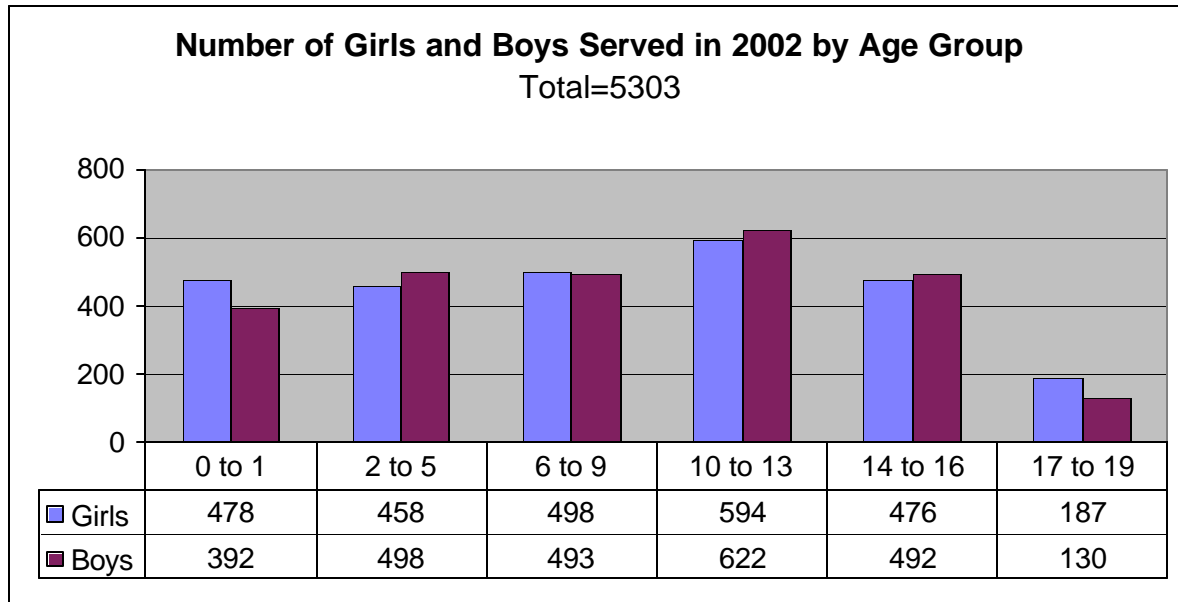
As a major goal of Preventive Services is to prevent out of home placement, it is logical that the majority of children served in 2002 were living at home with their parent(s).



The permanency planning goal for the majority of children served in 2002 was to prevent placement.

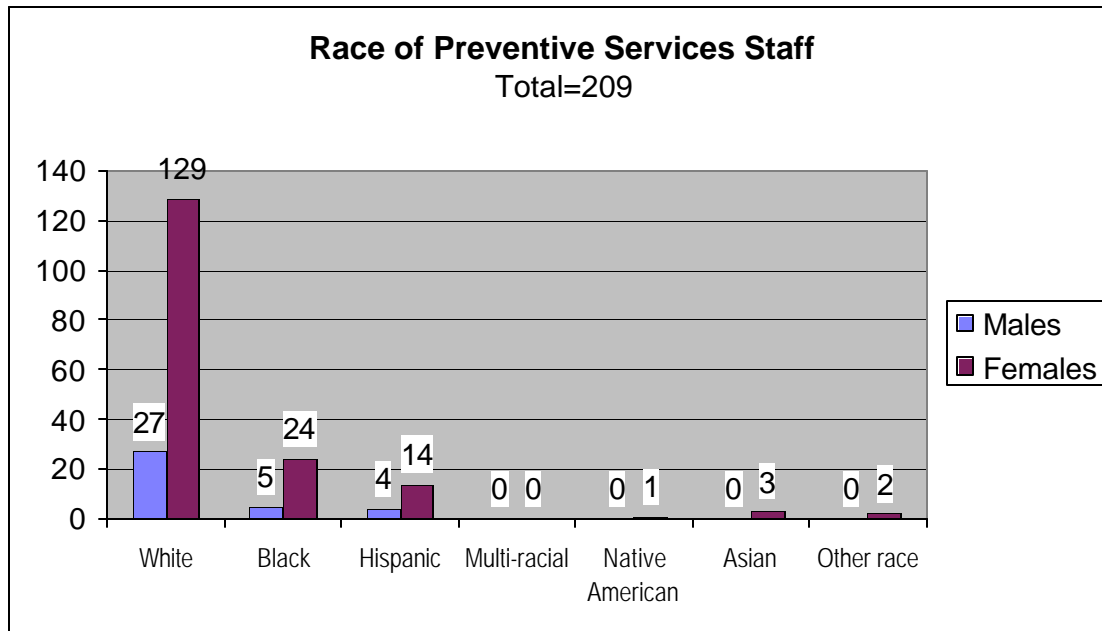


Children and Teens Served by Age, Gender and Race

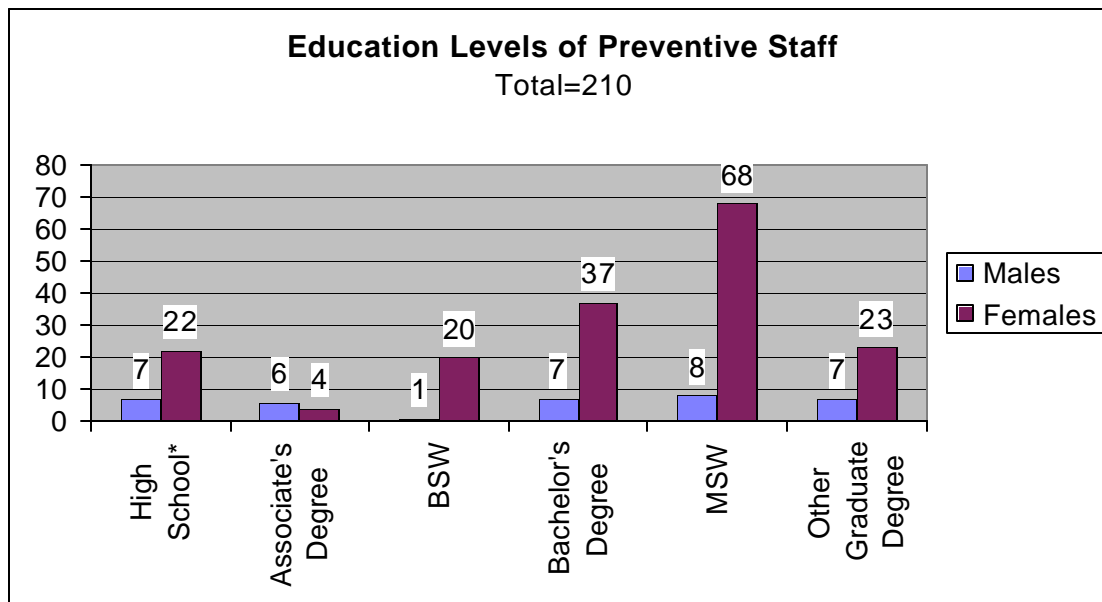


V. Characteristics of the Staff of Preventive Services Programs

Eighty three percent of the staff are female. Seventy five percent are white, 14% are African-American and 9% are Hispanic.



Preventive Services staff are highly skilled workers. Eighty two percent have at least a Bachelor's degree. Thirty six percent have Master's degrees in Social Work, and an additional 14% have other graduate degrees.



*Most are current college students working as part-time aides.

In addition, the programs reported that a total of 17 female and 3 male staff are fluent in Spanish. This represents 9.5% of the total staff.